Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 07251 220921Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SSC-01 /019 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4547

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 7251

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IV
SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND OF DENIS BRA KANON, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

REF: ABIDJAN 7203

1. NEWLY NAMED AGRICULTURE MINISTER BRA KANON IS A BETE, BORN FEBRUARY 4, 1936, IN DALOA. HE RECEIVED HIS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION IN BOUAKE AND ABIDJAN BEFORE GOING TO FRANCE IN 1957 FOR ADVANCED STUDIES. HE ENROLLED FIRST AT THE ECOLE NATIONALE SUPERIEURE D' AGRONOMIE IN TOULOUSE AND LATER AT MONTPELLIER WHERE HE RECEIVED HIS DEGREE IN AGRICULTURAL ENGINERING IN 1962.

2. THE SAME YEAR, BRA KANON RETURNED TO IVORY COAST AND SERVED A FEW MONTHS AS THE AGRICULTURE CHIEF IN BONDOUKOU. THE FOLLOWING YEAR, HE BEGAN HIS CAREER WITH SATMACI(SOCIETY FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL MODERNIZATON IN IVORY COAST) WHICH IS PART OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. HE BECAME DIRECTOR GENERAL O THE SAME ORGANIZATIN IN 1966, A POST HE HELD UNTIL HIS LATEST PROMOTION.

3. BRA KANON IS A MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE PDCI AND A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

4. COMPETENT AND AMBITIOUS, BRA KANON HAS BEEN MENTIONED AS A POSSIBLE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND HAS PUSHED HIS OWN CANDIDACY
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SINCE THE LATE 1960'S. HE HAS MADE NO SECRET OF HIS DESIRE FOR THE POST OR OF HIS FEELING HE DESERVED IT RATHER THAN THE "FOREIGNER" SAWADOGO. BRA KANON IS POLISHED, PERSONABLE, AND VERY CONFIDENT OF HI ABILITIES. HE IS MARRIED AND THE FATHER OF FOUR CHILDREN. COOKE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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